

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Listing of Claims

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Original): A polarizer comprising a film having a structure having a minute domain dispersed in a matrix formed of a translucent thermoplastic resin including an absorption dichroic dye,

wherein a transmittance to a linearly polarized light in a transmission direction is 80% or more,

a haze value is 10% or less, and

a haze value to a linearly polarized light in an absorption direction is 50% or more.

2. (Original): The polarizer according to Claim 1, wherein the minute domain is formed of an oriented birefringent material.

3. (Original): The polarizer according to Claim 2, wherein the birefringent material shows liquid crystalline at least in orientation processing step.

4. (Original): The polarizer according to Claim 2 or 3, wherein the minute domain has 0.02 or more of birefringence.

5. (Currently amended): The polarizer according to ~~any one of Claims 2 to 4~~ claim 2 or 3, wherein in a refractive index difference between the birefringent material forming the minute domain and the translucent thermoplastic resin in each optical axis direction,

a refractive index difference (Δn^1) in direction of axis showing a maximum is 0.03 or more, and

a refractive index difference (Δn^2) between the Δn^1 direction and a direction of axes of two directions perpendicular to the Δn^1 direction is 50% or less of the Δn^1 .

6. (Currently amended): The polarizer according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1 or 2, wherein a ratio of a backscattering strength to an incident light strength is 30% or less.

7. (Currently amended): The polarizer according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1 or 2, wherein an absorption axis of the absorption dichroic dye is oriented in the Δn^1 direction.

8. (Currently amended): The polarizer according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1 or 2, wherein the film is manufactured by stretching.

9. (Currently amended): The polarizer according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 8~~ claim 1 or 2, wherein the minute domain has a length of 0.05 to 500 μm in the Δn^2 direction.

10. (Currently amended): The polarizer according to ~~any one of claims 3 to 9~~ claim 3, wherein the birefringent material forming the minute domain is a liquid crystalline thermoplastic resin showing up a state of a nematic phase or a smectic phase in a temperature region lower than a glass transition temperature of the translucent thermoplastic resin.

11. (Currently amended): The polarizer according to ~~any one of claims 3 to 9~~ claim 3, wherein a birefringent material forming the minute domain is a product obtained by polymerization after aligning a liquid crystalline monomer showing up a state of a nematic phase or a smectic phase in a temperature region lower than the glass transition temperature of the translucent thermoplastic resin.

12. (Currently amended): The polarizer according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 11~~ claim 1 or 2, wherein the absorption dichroic dye is a dye having at least one absorption band with a dichroic ratio of 3 or more in the visible light wavelength region.

13. (Currently amended): A polarizing plate comprising a transparent protective layer formed at least on one side of the polarizer according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 12~~ claim 1 or 2.

14. (Currently amended): An optical film comprising ~~at least any one of the polarizer according to any one of Claims 1 to 12~~ claim 1 or 2 ~~or the polarizing plate according to Claim 13.~~

15. (Currently amended): An image display comprising ~~at least any one of the polarizer according to Claims 1 to 12~~ claim 1 or 2, ~~the polarizing plate according to Claim 13, or the optical film according to Claim 14.~~

16. (New): An optical film comprising the polarizing plate according to Claim 13.

17. (New): An image display comprising the polarizing plate according to Claim 13.

18. (New): An image display comprising the optical film according to Claim 14.